

IN THE CLAIMS AMEND

1. (Currently Amended) ~~Littrow~~A grating with a multiplicity of parallel diffraction structures succeeding one another periodically, which are arranged on a support defining a base area and each incorporate:

a) _____ -a planar blaze flank inclined towards the base area substantially at the ~~Littrow~~angle at an angle θ ; and

b) _____ a counter-flank which forms an apex angle α , ~~wherein the~~ with the blaze flank and the counter-flank form at the apex of a diffraction structure an apex angle with is, wherein the apex angle is less than 90° ;

~~characterised in that~~ wherein the counter-flank (6) comprises at least two substantially plane area sections (7, 8) which:

~~;~~ i) _____ bordering one another and are inclined relative to one another by an angle of inclination (β), ~~extend parallel with the extension direction of the diffraction structure (3)~~, ~~wherein due to the inclination of the at least two area sections (7, 8) relative to one another so that the counter-flank (6) all in all exhibits a concave surface viewed from the light incidence side, and in that~~ wherein the region where the plane area sections border of the counter-flank where the two substantially plane area sections (7, 8) meet, is lower than the lowest area of the blaze flank;

ii) _____ extend parallel with the extension direction of the diffraction structure; and

iii) _____ are arranged such that if parallel light, which has a direction of propagation perpendicular to the blaze flank, impinges onto the grating, the counter-flank is not exposed to parallel light.

2. (~~Original~~Currently Amended) ~~Littrow~~The grating according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that wherein the plane area sections (7, 8) exhibit a width ratio of 0.5 to 2 measured normal to the extension direction of the diffraction structures (3).~~
3. (~~Original~~Currently Amended) ~~Littrow~~The grating according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that wherein the angle of inclination (β) lies in the range of 90° to 150°.~~
4. (~~Original~~Currently Amended) ~~Littrow~~The grating according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that it consists the grating further comprising of quartz glass.~~
5. (~~Original~~Currently Amended) ~~Littrow~~The grating according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that it the grating further comprising comprises a coating increasing to increase the reflectivity.~~
6. (~~Original~~Currently Amended) ~~Littrow~~The grating according to claim 5, ~~characterised in that wherein the coating is an aluminum coating.~~
7. (~~Original~~Currently Amended) ~~Littrow~~The grating according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that it comprises further comprising a dielectric layer system.~~
8. (~~Original~~Currently Amended) ~~Littrow~~The grating according to claim 7, ~~characterised in that wherein the dielectric layer system comprises layers of Al₂O₃ and MgF₂.~~

9. (~~Original~~Currently Amended) ~~Littrow~~The grating according to claim 7, ~~characterised in that wherein~~ the dielectric layer system comprises layers of LaF_3 and MgF_2 .

10. (~~Original~~Currently Amended) ~~Littrow~~The grating according to claim 1, characterised in that the blaze flank (5) comprises, measured normal to the extension direction of the diffraction structures (3), a minimum width of $g \cos(\theta)$, where g designates the grating period of the ~~Littrow~~diffraction grating and θ the ~~Littrow~~Littrow angle.

11. (~~Original~~Currently Amended) Use of a ~~Littrow~~the grating according to claim 1 in a diffraction order of the incident light wavelength above or equal to the 15th diffraction order.

12. (~~Original~~Currently Amended) Use of a ~~Littrow~~the grating according to claim 1 for the diffraction of UV light (9, 10, 11, 12) with a wavelength that is less than 250 nm.